

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

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FOR IO ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, UNOPI, APER, (POWELL, WILLIAM)
SUBJECT: SUCCESSION OF WILLIAM D. POWELL (U.S., D2)
UN OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION (OPI)

1. POWELL, WHO REACHED MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE OF 60 IN AUGUST, 1977, HAS BEEN EXTENDED THROUGH FEBRUARY 1978. A FURTHER RECOMMENDATION FOR HIS EXTENSION TO JUNE 1978 AWAITS APPROVAL OF USYG FOR OPI AKATANI WHO EXPECTED RETURN FROM TOKYO JANUARY 23. (IT IS NOT KNOWN IF POWELL WILL AGREE TO TAKE THE FURTHER EXTENSION.)

2. POWELL, SENIOR AMERICAN IN OPI, WEARS DUAL HATS OF DIRECTOR, PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION AND UN SPOKESMAN. WHILE SPOKESMAN RESPONSIBILITIES ARE EVIDENT, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT POWELL'S OTHER DUTIES INVOLVE DIRECTION AND GENERAL GUIDANCE OF UN'S GROWING PRINT OUTPUT. POWELL'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR RUDOLF STAJDUHAR (YUGOSLAV, D1) AND FRANCOIS GUILIANI (FRANCE, P4) BOTH CARRY SPOKESMAN TITLE, BUT SEVERAL WELL PLACED SECRETARIAT SOURCES INCLUDING POWELL HAVE TOLD USUN THAT SUCCESSION BY EITHER TO DIRECTORSHIP OF PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS
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DIVISION WOULD BE DISASTROUS.

3. MISSION RECOMMENDS(A) DELIBERATE DECISION BY DEPARTMENT SEEK REPLACE POWELL WITH U.S. CITIZEN; (B) PROMPT, INTENSIFIED EFFORT RECRUIT CANDIDATES FOR REPLACEMENT OF POWELL AND (C) INSTRUCTION INFORM WALDHEIM IMMEDIATELY OF OUR INTENTIONS IN THIS DIRECTION.

MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT RECRUTIMENT GIVE PRIORITY TO
MANAGERIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMPETENCE OF
CANDIDATES, CERTAINLY INCLUDING WOMEN, WHO ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE
IN PUBLICATIONS AND PRESS AREA.

4. UPON RECEIPT INSTRUCTION RECOMMENDED PARA 3(C), USUN
WILL ADVISE WALDHEIM PROMPTLY OF INTENTION FORMALLY
NOMINATE CANDIDATES SUCCEED POWELL AS DIRECTOR OF
THE DIVISION AND UN SPOKESMAN. SIGNIFICANCE TO
AMERICAN MEDIA, NGO'S AND SIMILAR CONTITUENCIES OF FILLING
THIS POSITION WITH U.S. CITIZEN POSSESSING FULL
RANGE OF CRITICAL QUALIFICATIONS NEEDS LITTLE ELABORATION.

LEONARD

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